

of any other political subdivision may, or if so ordered by the Governor and/or the Maryland Council of Defense acting through such person or persons as it may designate, shall assign and make available for duty and use in such county, city, town, village or fire district, under the direction and command of such officer as may be designated for the purpose, any part of the fire-fighting forces and equipment under his control; provided that any equipment made available by loan, or otherwise, to any county, city, town, village, or fire district in the State, by the United States Government or any agency thereof, shall at all times be subject to the order of the United States Government or such agency in accordance with the terms and conditions upon which such equipment shall have been made available.

(b) *Powers, Duties, Rights, Privileges and Immunities.* Whenever the fire-fighting forces of any county, city, town, village or fire district are rendering outside aid pursuant to this Act, the officers and members of such fire-fighting forces shall have the same powers, duties, rights, privileges, and immunities as if they were performing their duties in the political subdivision in which they are normally employed.

(c) *Loss, Damage or Expense.* The county, city, town, village or fire district in which any equipment is used pursuant to this Act shall be liable for any loss or damage thereto and shall pay any expense incurred in the operation and maintenance thereof. No claim for any such loss, damage or expense shall be allowed unless, within sixty days after the same is sustained or incurred, an itemized notice of such claim, under oath, is served by mail or otherwise upon the chief fiscal officer of such county, city, town, village or fire district, where the equipment was used.

(d) *Liability for Acts or Omissions.* Neither the State nor the political subdivision of the State whose fire-fighting forces are rendering outside aid pursuant to this Act shall be liable on account of any act or omission on the part of such forces while so engaged, or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith; nor shall any commissioner, chief or other superior officer of a fire department, fire company or other fire-fighting forces, acting pursuant to this Act, be liable on account of any act or omission, on the part of any of his subordinates while such subordinates are rendering outside aid pursuant to this Act under the command of an officer other than himself.

(e) *Reimbursement for Salaries and Expenses.* The political subdivision which is aided pursuant to this Act shall reimburse the political subdivision furnishing such aid for the